(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the water crisis is likely to be solved as a result of short term, measures; and

(d) the States which have been benefited thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The Department of Drinking Water Supply is implementing the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) under which funds available to the States every year for supply of drinking water in rural areas. The Department of Urban Development is implementing a similar scheme for supply of drinking water in urban areas. Also, emergency supply of drinking water including transportation of water in urban areas is a legitimate charge on the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

The availability of drinking water in some of the States was reviewed recently and steps were taken for movement of drinking water through railway wagons to the affected areas in Rajasthan. The availability of drinking water in various States is constantly monitored.

Development of rice strains

1031. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether super rice strains would be coming this monsoon which would double or treble the present yield; and

(b) if so, the details regarding development of such a variety of rice strains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise, Sir.

Jute production

1032. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of jute production in the country during the last three years, State-wise;